

SENATE RECORD VOTE ANALYSIS

105th Congress
2nd Session

Vote No. 310

October 9, 1998, 9:51 a.m.
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FREEDOM FROM RELIGIOUS PERSECUTION/Final Passage

SUBJECT: Freedom from Religious Persecution Act . . . H.R. 2431. Final passage, as amended.

ACTION: BILL PASSED, 98-0

SYNOPSIS: As passed, H.R. 2431, the Freedom from Religious Persecution Act, will strengthen the United States' policy to support religious freedom around the world and will provide for targeted sanctions to respond to violations of religious freedom. Details are provided below.

- Department of State Activities. An Office on International Religious Freedom will be established and will be headed by an Ambassador at Large. The Ambassador's duties will include the annual preparation of country-by-country reports on religious freedom, and the maintenance of an Internet site to provide access to people around the world to international documents on the protection of religious freedom. Standard foreign service officer training will include instruction on the internationally recognized right to freedom of religion, the nature, activities, and beliefs of different religions, and the various aspects and manifestations of violations of religious freedom. United States diplomats will meet with nongovernmental religious organizations, and will attempt to meet with people imprisoned for their faith, "where appropriate and beneficial." United States citizens will be allowed to use United States missions or consular posts for religious purposes on no less restrictive terms than they are allowed to use those missions or posts for other nongovernmental purposes. Country-by-country issue briefs that list people who have been arrested for their faith will be prepared.

- Commission on International Religious Freedom. A Commission on International Religious Freedom will be established to conduct annual and ongoing reviews of violations of religious freedom and to make policy recommendations.

- National Security Council. It is the sense of Congress that there should be a special adviser on international religious freedom on the staff of the National Security Council.

- Targeted Responses to Violations of Religious Freedoms Abroad. The President will take one or more of the following actions against a government of a country if it engages in or tolerates violations of religious freedom: a private demarche; an official, public demarche; a public condemnation; a public condemnation with one or more multilateral fora; the delay or cancellation of one or more scientific exchanges; the delay or cancellation of one or more cultural exchanges; the denial of one or more working, official, or state

(See other side)

YEAS (98)				NAYS (0)		NOT VOTING (2)	
Republican (55 or 100%)		Democrats (43 or 100%)		Republicans (0 or 0%)	Democrats (0 or 0%)	Republicans (0)	Democrats (2)
Abraham	Hutchinson	Akaka	Kennedy				Glenn ⁻²
Allard	Hutchison	Baucus	Kerrey				Hollings ⁻²
Ashcroft	Inhofe	Biden	Kerry				
Bennett	Jeffords	Bingaman	Kohl				
Bond	Kempthorne	Boxer	Landrieu				
Brownback	Kyl	Breaux	Lautenberg				
Burns	Lott	Bryan	Leahy				
Campbell	Lugar	Bumpers	Levin				
Chafee	Mack	Byrd	Lieberman				
Coats	McCain	Cleland	Mikulski				
Cochran	McConnell	Conrad	Moseley-Braun				
Collins	Murkowski	Daschle	Moynihan				
Coverdell	Nickles	Dodd	Murray				
Craig	Roberts	Dorgan	Reed				
D'Amato	Roth	Durbin	Reid				
DeWine	Santorum	Feingold	Robb				
Domenici	Sessions	Feinstein	Rockefeller				
Enzi	Shelby	Ford	Sarbanes				
Faircloth	Smith, Bob	Graham	Torricelli				
Frist	Smith, Gordon	Harkin	Wellstone				
Gorton	Snowe	Inouye	Wyden				
Gramm	Specter	Johnson					
Grams	Stevens						
Grassley	Thomas						
Gregg	Thompson						
Hagel	Thurmond						
Hatch	Warner						
Helms							

EXPLANATION OF ABSENCE:

- 1—Official Business
- 2—Necessarily Absent
- 3—Illness
- 4—Other

SYMBOLS:

- AY—Announced Yea
- AN—Announced Nay
- PY—Paired Yea
- PN—Paired Nay

visits; the delay or cancellation of one or more working, official, or state visits; the withdrawal, limitation, or suspension of United States development assistance; a ban on certain trade assistance; instructions to United States directors of international financial institutions to oppose multilateral assistance; a ban on certain arms and other export licenses and on other exports that need specific approval; a ban on any United States official giving loans or credits of more than \$10 million in 1 year to the government or to any entity or official in the government responsible for the religious freedom violation; and a ban on procuring goods from the government or from any entity or official found to be guilty of a religious freedom violation. The President will choose which sanction or sanctions to apply depending upon the severity of the violation. The President will choose from the ninth option through the fifteenth option to respond to particularly severe violations of religious freedom. In lieu of taking any of the above actions, the President may negotiate and enter into a binding agreement with a foreign government that obligates that government to cease or take substantial steps to address and phase out the act, policy, or practice constituting the violation of religious freedom. None of the actions taken may prohibit